"Express Mail" Label No. EL265821005US Date of Deposit May 8, 2001

Attorney Docket No.: 16869S019510 Client Reference No.: E5678-01-EN

I hereby certify that this is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Address" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

By: Scor Toplell



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Yokio Isobe, et al.

Application No.:

Filed: Herewith

For: Apparatus and Method for Recording and Reproducing

Information

Examiner:

Unassigned

Art Unit:

Unassigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Applicant believes that <u>no fee is required</u> for submission of this statement, since it is being submitted prior to the first Office Action. However, if a fee is required, the

Yokio Isobe, et al. Application No.: Page 2

PATENT

Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert C. Colwell Reg. No. 27,431

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor San Francisco, California 94111-3834

Tel: 650-326-2400 Fax: 650-326-2422

RCC:mks

PA 3144157 v1

17

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
or respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control furmber.

Substitu	te for form 1449A/PTC)			Complete if Known	2
				Application Number		40
INFO	DRMATION	DIS	CLOSURE	Filing Date		S. S.
STA	TEMENT B	Y A	PPLICANT	First Named Inventor	Isobe, Yokio	25
				Group Art Unit		9,4
	(use as many she	ets as	necessary)	Examiner Name		6,4
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	16869S019510	7

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials *	Cite No.¹	U.S. Pa	itent Document	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
		Cite No.1 Number Kind Code ² (if known)					
	 -		<u> </u>	-			
	<u> </u>	 					
		<u> </u>		-			
		+		 			
	<u> </u>					······································	
	1						
	ļ						
		ļ		<u> </u>			
				 			
	1	-					
		 					
	 	 			· · ·		
				 			
	†						
· · · ·		1					

	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee	Date of Publication of	Pages, Columns, Lines,	
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	or Applicant of Cited Document	Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
	A1	JP	11-18735	4	Matsushita Electric	07-09-1999		Abstract
					<u></u>			
							·	

Examiner	 Date	
Signature	 Considered	

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. 2 See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.